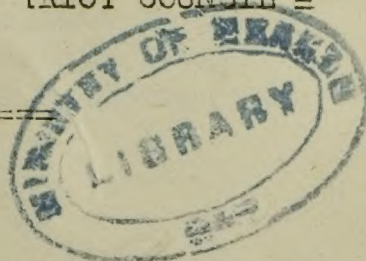


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= BLACKROD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL =



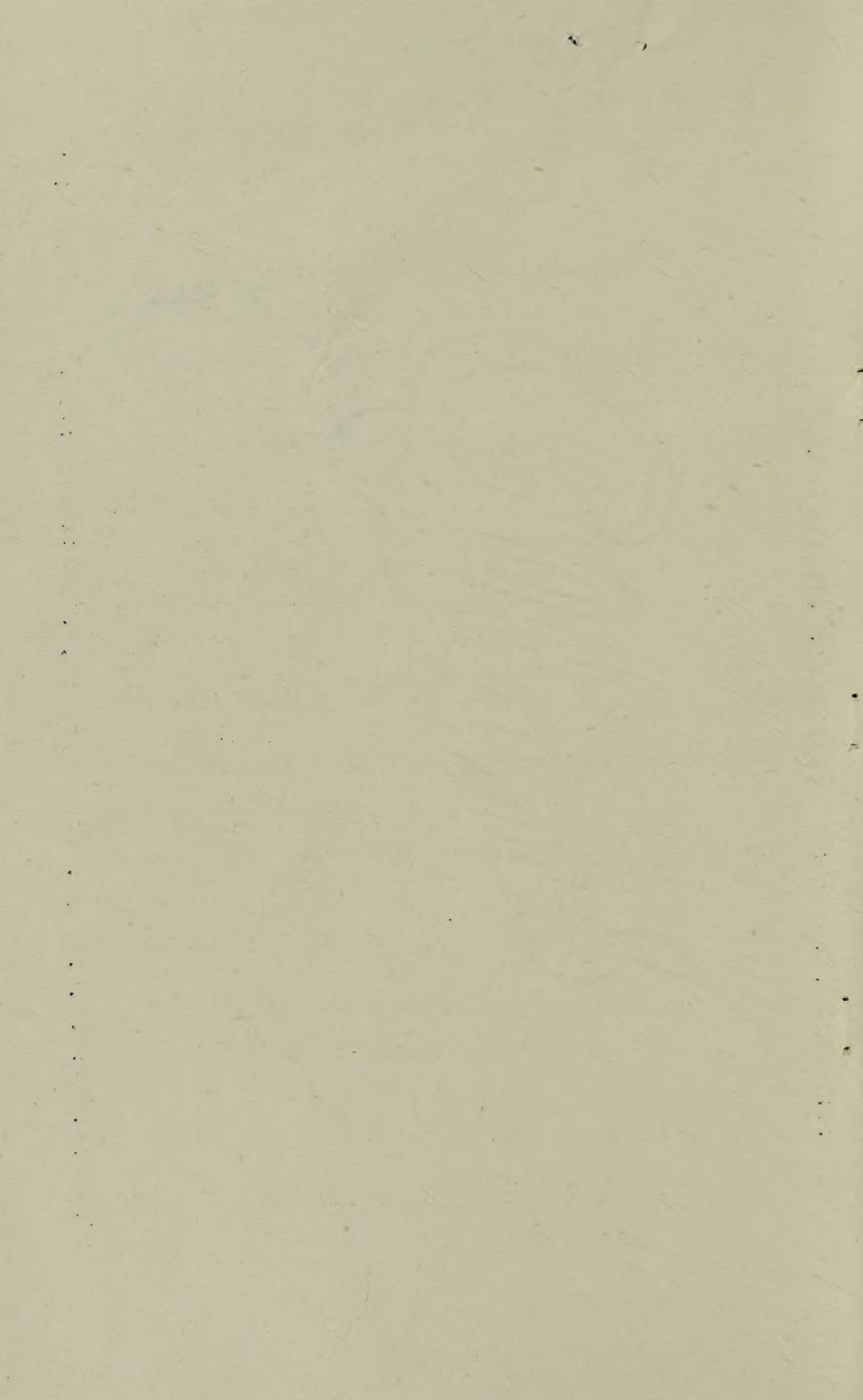
= ANNUAL REPORT =

= of the =

= MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH =

= for 1947 =

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1.

TO THE CHAIRMAN & MEMBERS OF
THE BLACKROD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Condition of the Blackrod Urban District for the year 1947.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres)	2,392,394
Population (Census 1931)	3,599
No. of Inhabited Houses (end of 1947)...	925
Rateable Value	£11,659
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£46-9-11d.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS during the year.

Population estimated at Mid 1947 2,882

		<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Live Births	Legitimate	62	32	30
	Illegitimate	2	1	1
		<u>64</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>31</u>

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population
(Mid 1947) - 22.2

Still Births 1 - 1

Rate per 1,000 (live & still) births 15.

TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
THE NATIONAL BOARD OF HEALTH

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to present to you my
Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary
Condition of the District of Columbia for
the year 1947.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (square miles) ... 2,392.394
Population (Census 1930) ... 3,329,929
No. of inhabited houses (end of 1947) ... 211,659
Average value ... 211,659
and represented by a family rate ... 211,659

ESTIMATES FOR VIT A STATISTICS DURING THE YEAR

Population estimated as in 1947 ... 2,392,394

Total for the District		Legitimate		Illegitimate	
62	32	62	32	62	32
1	1	1	1	1	1
63	33	63	33	63	33

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population
(1947) - 22.5

Still births ... 1

Rate per 1,000 (live & still) births 15

Total Males Females

Deaths	38	20	18
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Death Rate per 1,000 est. population ... 13.1

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES

<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Death rate per</u>
	<u>1,000 total</u>
	<u>(live and still)</u>
	<u>births</u>

Puerperal & Post-abortive		
sepsis ...	Nil	Nil
Other maternal causes ...	Nil	Nil
Total Maternal Mortality	Nil	Nil

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE

All Infants per 1,000 live births	15
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate	
live births	16
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate	
live births	Nil

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	5
" " Measles (all ages)	-
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	-
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) 1	

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1947Males Females

Tuberculosis of the Respiratory		
System	-	1
Cancer of Stomach	1	-
Cancer of other Sites	2	2
Intracranial Vascular Lesions ... 1		2
Heart Diseases	9	8

C/F

13

13

		<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
	B/M	13	13
Bronchitis		1	-
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)		-	1
Other digestive disease		-	2
Nephritis		2	-
Violent Causes		1	-
Other Causes		3	2
Total		20	18

NOTE - There were 18 transferable deaths which are included in above.

CAUSES OF SICKNESS DURING THE YEAR

There were 64 cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year compared with 9 in the previous year. Measles accounted for 44 notifications & Scarlet Fever - 9.

IMMUNISATION

There were 60 children immunised against Diphtheria. 36 of these were school children and 24 were of pre-school age.

NURSING ARRANGEMENTS

There is one district nurse who is also a practising Midwife.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION

For Smallpox - No provision.

Other Infectious Diseases - Fall Birth

Hospital is no longer available for Infectious Disease, same having been taken over by the Lancashire County Council for the treatment of Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Cases of Infectious Disease are treated at Whelley Sanatorium, near Wigan.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1947.

	Total		Deaths										Cases		Deaths in Hosp.
	at all ages	Under 1 yr	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	Total removed to Hosp.	
Scarlet Fever	9	-	1	-	-	-	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	-
Diphtheria	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Measles	44	1	7	4	9	11	11	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Pol. Tuberculosis	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	1	-	-
	64	3	9	4	10	11	18	2	-	2	1	3	1	5	-

The Public Health Staff consists of a Part time Medical Officer and a Sanitary Inspector who is also Surveyor.

A Visiting Nurse is provided by the County.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

One Motor Ambulance is available for all types of cases (except Infectious Cases) and is adequate for the needs of the district. Infectious Disease cases are removed by Motor Ambulance belonging to Fall Birch Hospital and conveyed to Infectious Disease Hospitals by arrangement.

MORTUARY.

The Mortuary situated at the Cometary is sufficient for the needs of the district.

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SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

Water supply.

Source of Supply:- Our Waterworks, Gathering Ground, Merland in Character, upland surface water and springs.

- 1 (a) The quality of the water has been satisfactorily maintained.
- 1 (b) The continued drought during the latter part of the Summer made it necessary to restrict the use of water. Adlington U.D. and Hornich U.D. to whom the Local Authority supply water in bulk agreed to obtain water from their other supplies as a temporary measure. The Council maintaining a supply

of water to their own District and to the Wigan R.D. Parish of Haigh who have no other alternative means of supply. This restriction was necessary for a period of 24 days when normal supplies were again maintained. All water on entering into supply is first chlorinated, and this plant has operated satisfactorily throughout the year.

- II One bacteriological sample has been taken, and this was found to be satisfactory. No chemical analysis have been taken.
- III The Local Authority require the use of 'tinned' lead pipe for all water services.
- IV Normal precautions are taken against contamination of the water supply.
- V Number of dwelling houses with a piped supply of water -
 - (a) Direct to houses - 932 - 3,590 persons
 - (b) Supply from standpipe - 2 - 2 persons.

SCAVENGING

Scavenging and gulley emptying on Class I and Class II Roads are now carried out by the County Council. Class III and District Roads are scavenged and gullies emptied by the Sanitary Authority.

Privy middens and Cesspools are emptied at regular intervals.

SLUDGE DISPOSAL

Method of treatment is by land irrigation.

Character of Drainage System. Combined and separate systems which are fairly satisfactory apart from the tendency of the tanks at Scot Lane, and the cutfall to the River Douglas near Whitehall Lane to overflow in the river, following abnormal rainfall.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR

Number of premises visited	...	...	...	280
Defects or nuisances discovered	...	...	...	130
Number abated	...	...	...	115
Notices served - Informal	...	...	...	106
Statutory	...	...	...	36
Legal Proceedings taken	...	...	...	Nil

OFFENSIVE TRADES

None in the District.

SLIGHTLY HOUSES

There are no Public Slaughterhouses in the District. There are two licensed Slaughterhouses in the District but these are not being used at the present time, all animals being slaughtered and meat distributed by the Ministry of Food.

PUBLIC LENDING

The collection and disposal of household and trade refuse is carried out by direct labour. One motor lorry, supplemented by a horse and cart where necessary are employed on this work. Salvage is collected, waste paper sorted, baled and stored for periodic removal by Licensed Merchants. The refuse collecting vehicle is old and the Local Authority have placed an order for a new vehicle the delivery of which is expected shortly.

CORRIN LODGING HOUSES

Nine in the District.

SCHOOLS

There are three Junior Schools and one Modern School in the District, and the general condition of sanitation and water supplies are satisfactory. In one of the schools, however, where trough closets are in use, some improvements could be effected.

BALKEHOUSES

There are two Retail Balkehouses, both of which are not in use at present.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, and MILKSHOPS.

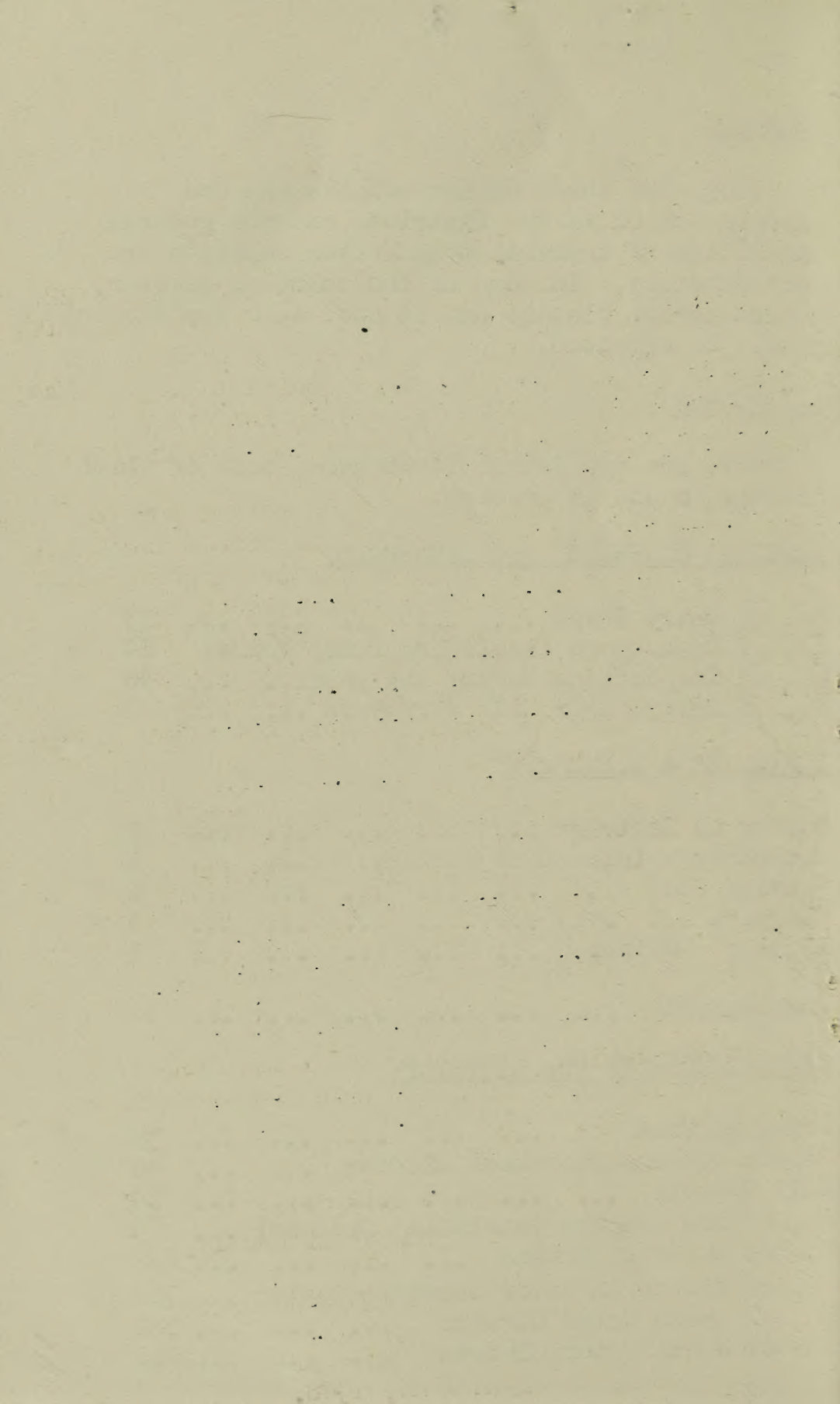
No. of Dairy Farms	23
No. of Cowkeepers (including Dairy Farms)	24
No. of Inspections during the year...	90
No. of Dairyman or Milk Purveyors	2

FactORIES & WORKSHOPS

Number in District	8
Bleachworks (closed as factory)	1
Weaving Shed	1
Gloggers	1
Plumber - Joiner	1
Inspections	12

CONVENIENCES IN THE DISTRICT

Privy Middens	39
Closet attached to these Middens	48
Fail Closets	14
No. of Dry Ashpits (excluding Middens)	5
No. of Movable Ashbins	683
No. of Houses on Water Carriage System ...	768
No. of Fresh Water Closets	782
No. of Waste Water Closets	Nil



No. of houses at which movable ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles - 11.

HOUSES

Number of new houses erected and tenanted - 22.
3 Bedroom type permanent houses. The Local Authority have under construction, a further 34 houses, the majority of which are now almost completed. Permission has also been granted to invite tenders for a further 4 - 3 Bedroom type Houses and 8 Bungalows.

The Housing Standard in the District for the working classes is low, many of the houses are built of stone, are old, and require further improvements. The common type of defect on this type of house are as follows - Rising and penetrating dampness, spent roofs, decayed ceiling and wall plaster. Many of the houses are lacking the following amenities - Bathroom accommodation, hot water system and separate food store.

CHIEF SANITARY REQUIREMENTS OF THE DISTRICT

Further privy conversions, reconditioning and repairing of sub-standard houses. Demolition of unfit houses which cannot be repaired to provide the necessary standard of fitness required.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Council's Officer's for their kind and valued co-operation during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,
Yours faithfully,

LEO. UNSWORTH.

Dalton House,
Westhoughton.

25th June, 1948.

